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Mississippi Public Service Commission

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BO ROBINSON, VICE-CHAIRMAN
HAMILTON - THIRD DISTRICT

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JACKSON - FIRST DISTRICT



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EXECUTIVE SECRETARY
(601) 961-5400

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OFFICE OF MOTOR CARRIERS

DAVID L. CAMPBELL, ATTORNEY
COMMISSION STAFF

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SEP 29 2003

FCC - MAILROOM

September 24, 2003

Marlene H. Dortch
Office of the Secretary
Federal Communications Commission
445-12th Street, SW
Washington, D.C. 20554

Re: **CC Docket No. 96-45, No. 99-306; October 1st Certification Requirement for Non-Rural Carriers**

Dear Ms. Dortch:

Pursuant to 47 C.F.R. § 54.313, the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("MPSC") files its required annual certification for the year 2004 for the non-rural carriers identified in Attachment A.

In accordance with the Federal Communication Commission's ("FCC") requirements in *Federal/State Joint Board on Universal Service, Ninth Report and Order, Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45; FCC. 99-306*, the Mississippi Public Service Commission hereby certifies that these non-rural carriers proposed use of federal universal service high-cost support for the year 2004 will be used only for the provision, maintenance, and upgrading of facilities and services for which the support is intended, consistent with Section 254(e) of the Telecommunications Act of 1996.


Attachment B contains copies of the Commission's orders designating additional non-rural eligible telecommunications carriers for Mississippi.

Enclosed is a stamped addressed envelope and an additional copy of this letter for you to use in forwarding a stamped filed copy of this correspondence. Thank you for your assistance in this matter.

In accordance with the FCC's mandate, this certification letter is also being sent to Irene Flannery, Universal Service Administrative Company.

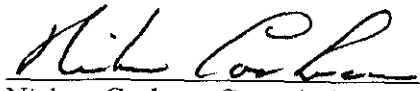
Sincerely,


Michael Callahan, Chairman


Bo Robinson, Vice-Chairman

No. of Copies rec'd 0
List ABOVE

Marlene H. Dortch
September 24, 2003
Page 2

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Nielsen Cochran", written over a horizontal line.

Nielsen Cochran, Commissioner

Enclosure

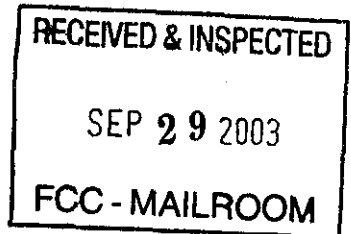
Cc: Irene Flannery

Attachment A

MS Non-Rural Carriers 2004 October 1st Certification

<u>Carrier's Name</u>	<u>Carrier's Study Area Code</u>	<u>MS Docket No.</u>
BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc.	285184	2000-AD-0040
Dixie-NetCommunications, Inc.	289003	2001-UA-0198
Cellular South Licenses, Inc.	289001	2001-UA-0451
RCC Holdings, Inc. d/b/a/ Unicef	289002	2002-UA-0533
WS Telecom d/b/a Expetel Communications	289007	2002-UA-0319
CommuniGroup of Jackson, Inc.	289009	2003-UA-0165
Centennial Cellular Tri-State Operating Partnership	289005	2003-UA-0234
Centennial Claiborne Cellular Corp.	289004	2003-UA-0234

**BEFORE THE PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION
OF
THE STATE OF MISSISSIPPI**



DOCKET NO. 2000-AD-040

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE
COMMISSION

IN RE: CERTIFICATION OF THE
CARRIERS RECEIVING
FEDERAL UNIVERSAL
SERVICE HIGH-COST
SUPPORT

ORDER

COMES NOW, the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission") and it appearing to the Commission, for good cause shown and after reviewing the plan for utilization of the year 2004 Federal Universal Service Funding ("USF") submitted by BellSouth Telecommunications, Inc. ("BellSouth"), upon the recommendation of the Mississippi Public Utilities Staff ("MPUS") and this Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised, finds as follows:

1. On January 19, 2000, the Commission established this docket to certify, pursuant to the Federal Communications Commission's ("FCC") Universal Service Order¹, that the use of federal universal service high cost support in Mississippi is consistent with 47 U.S.C. §254(e). In accordance with the FCC's Universal Service Order and with this Commission's Order of January 19, 2000, BellSouth submitted a plan for utilization of the year 2000 Federal Universal Service Funding that was consistent with the principles of universal service as outlined in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and by the FCC in its Universal Service Order.

¹ Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45; FCC 99-306, released November 2, 1999 ("Universal Service Order"). See generally paragraphs 93-110.

2. On March 14, 2000, the Commission issued an Order certifying that BellSouth's proposed use of federal universal service high-cost support for the year 2000 in Mississippi was consistent with 47 U.S.C. §254(e). The network infrastructure improvements outlined in BellSouth's plan were basically to be accomplished over a three (3) year timeframe. The rate reductions proposed in the plan were to be accomplished in the year 2000.

3. On August 25, 2000, BellSouth submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the year 2001 Federal Universal Service Funding for approval by the Commission. The plan submitted on August 25, 2000 proposed a continuation of the network infrastructure improvement plan approved by the Commission in March, 2000. On September 22, 2000, the Commission issued an Order certifying that BellSouth's plan to utilize federal universal service high-cost support in Mississippi as proposed in its continuation plan submitted to the Commission on August 25, 2000, as modified by the Commission in its Order, was consistent with 47 U.S.C. §254(e).

4. On September 6, 2001, BellSouth submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the year 2002 Federal Universal Service Funding for approval by the Commission. The plan submitted on September 6, 2001 proposed a continuation of the network infrastructure improvement plan approved by the Commission in March, 2000. On September 27, 2001, the Commission issued an Order certifying that BellSouth's plan to utilize federal universal service high-cost support in Mississippi as proposed in its continuation plan submitted to the Commission on September 6, 2001, as modified by the Commission in its Order, was consistent with 47 U.S.C. §254(e).

5. On August 30, 2002, BellSouth submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the year 2003 Federal Universal Service Funding for approval by the Commission. The plan submitted on August 30, 2002 proposed a continuation of the network infrastructure improvement plan approved by the Commission in March, 2000. In its August 30, 2002 plan, BellSouth proposed to utilize the federal Universal Service Funding for the year 2003 in order to continue to improve its network infrastructure in the rural areas of the State of Mississippi consistent with the manner in which the Commission has previously reviewed and approved for the federal USF monies for the year 2002.

6. On August 1, 2003, BellSouth submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the year 2004 Federal Universal Service Funding for approval by the Commission. Subsequent to that transmittal, the MPUS requested a clarification of selected plan activities as well as a more granular alignment of expenses associated with these activities. On August 27, 2003, BellSouth submitted its revised plan for utilization of the year 2004 Federal Universal Service Funding for approval by the Commission. In its August 27, 2003 revised plan, BellSouth is proposing to utilize the federal Universal Service Funding for the year 2004 in order to continue to improve its network infrastructure in the rural areas of the State of Mississippi consistent with the manner in which the Commission has previously reviewed and approved for the federal USF monies in prior years.

7. The Commission concludes that BellSouth's August 27, 2003 revised plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004 is consistent with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the pertinent FCC Orders.

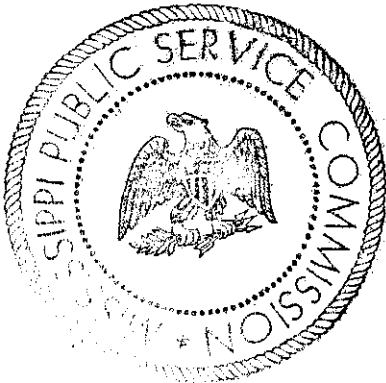
This Order shall be effective upon its execution.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Commission hereby certifies that BellSouth's plan to utilize federal universal service high-cost support in Mississippi as proposed in its revised plan submitted to the Commission on August 27, 2003, is consistent with 47 U.S.C. §254(e). IT IS FURTHER ORDERED that BellSouth shall file quarterly reports with the Commission providing the status of universal service fund expenditures and projects.

Chairman Michael Callahan voted Aye; Vice-Chairman Bo Robinson voted Aye; Commissioner Nielsen Cochran voted Aye.

SO ORDERED on this the 24th day of September, 2003.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Michael Callahan
MICHAEL CALLAHAN, CHAIRMAN

Bo Robinson
BO ROBINSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

Nielsen Cochran
NIELSEN COCHRAN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Brian U. Ray
BRIAN U. RAY
Executive Secretary

**BEFORE THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

01-UA-198

**DIXIE-NET
COMMUNICATIONS, INC.**

TC 123163400

TC123163401

**IN RE: PETITION OF DIXIE-NET
COMMUNICATIONS, INC. FOR
DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
UNDER THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ACT OF 1996**

ORDER

HAVING COME ON BEFORE the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission") for the consideration of Dixie-Net Communications, Inc.'s ("Dixie-Net") Revised Plan for Utilization of Federal Universal Service Funding for the year 2004 ("Revised Plan") heretofore submitted to this Commission by Dixie-Net, and after reviewing the Revised Plan and being otherwise sufficiently advised, this Commission finds as follows:

I.

On December 20, 2000, Dixie-Net filed its Petition for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") under the Telecommunications Act of 1996. The Commission entered an Order designating Dixie-Net an ETC on October 19, 2001.

II.

On August 1, 2003, Dixie-Net submitted its plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004. Thereafter on September 23, 2003, Dixie-Net submitted its Revised Plan for Utilization of Federal Universal Service Funding for the year 2004 for approval by this Commission. This Commission finds that Dixie-Net's Revised Plan for use of federal

universal service funds for the year 2004 in Mississippi is consistent with the principles of Universal Service as outlined in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and by the FCC in its Universal Service Order.¹

III.

The Commission, after consultation with the Public Utilities Staff, concludes that Dixie-Net's Revised Plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004 is consistent with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the pertinent FCC orders.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED:

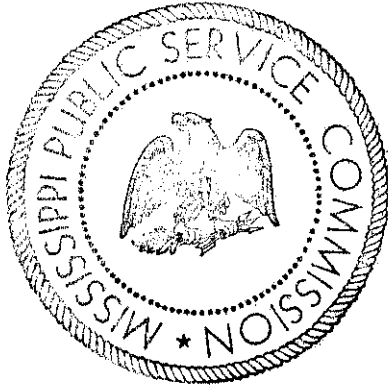
1. The Commission hereby certifies that Dixie-Net's Revised Plan for Utilization of Federal Universal Service Funding is consistent with 47 U.S.C. 254(e).
2. Dixie-Net shall file quarterly reports with the Commission providing the status of universal service fund expenditures and projects.
3. This Order is effective as of the date hereof.

Chairman Michael Callahan voted *aye*, Vice Chairman Bo Robinson voted *aye*; and Commissioner Nielsen Cochran voted *aye*.

¹Federal - State Joint Board on Universal Service Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 99-306, Released November 2, 1999 ("Universal Service Order"). See generally, paragraphs 93-110.

SO ORDERED, this the 24th day of September, 2003.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



BY: Michael Callahan
MICHAEL CALLAHAN, CHAIRMAN

BY: Bo Robinson
BO ROBINSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

BY: Nielsen Cochran
NIELSEN COCHRAN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Brian U. Ray
BRIAN U. RAY,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

BEFORE THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION

APPLICATION OF
CELLULAR SOUTH LICENSES, INC.
FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
UNDER 47 U.S.C. 214(E)(2)

DOCKET NO. 01-UA-0451

ORDER

COMES NOW, the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission") and it appearing to the Commission, for good cause shown and after reviewing the plan for utilization for the year 2004 Federal Universal Service Funding ("USF") submitted by Cellular South Licenses, Inc. ("CSL"), and this Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised, finds as follows:

I.

On June 19, 2001, CSL filed its Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") under Section 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2). On November 30, 2001, Victor H. (Hu) Meena filed direct testimony on behalf of Cellular South Licenses, Inc. in support of CSL's designation as an ETC. As a part of the testimony, Mr. Meena also filed with this Commission details of its plan for utilization of Federal Universal Service Funding it would receive in the year 2002 and thereafter. On December 27, 2001, this Commission issued its order certifying that CSL's proposed use of federal universal service funds for the year 2002 in Mississippi was consistent with the principles of Universal Service as outlined in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and by the FCC in its Universal Service Order.¹

¹Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45; FCC 99-306, released November 2, 1999 ("Universal Service Order"). See generally paragraphs 93-110.

II.

On August 1, 2003, CSL submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004 for approval by the Commission. The plan submitted on August 1, 2003, proposed a continuation of its four phase plan to improve and upgrade its wireless telecommunications facilities in high cost areas in Mississippi.

III.

On a quarterly basis during the year 2004 CSL shall submit reports to the Commission which detail CSL's USF expenditures during the quarter.

IV.

The Commission, after consultation with the Public Utilities Staff, concludes that CSL's August 1, 2003 continuation plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Funding for the year 2004 is consistent with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the pertinent FCC Orders.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED that the Commission hereby certifies that CSL's plan to utilize Federal Universal Service High Cost Support Funds in Mississippi as contained in its continuation plan submitted to the Commission on August 1, 2003, is consistent with 47 U.S.C. §254(e).

This Order is effective as of its date of execution.

Chairman Michael Callahan voted Aye; Vice Chairman Bo Robinson voted Aye; and Commissioner Nielsen Cochran voted Aye.

SO ORDERED on this the 24th day of September, 2003.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



Michael Callahan
MICHAEL CALLAHAN, CHAIRMAN

Bo Robinson
BO ROBINSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

Nielsen Cochran
NIELSEN COCHRAN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST A TRUE COPY:

Brian U. Ray
BRIAN U. RAY, EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

**BEFORE THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

02-UA-533

**RCC HOLDINGS, INC. D/B/A
UNICEL**

TC 123200300

**IN RE: APPLICATION OF RCC HOLDINGS,
INC. D/B/A UNICEL FOR
DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
UNDER 47 U.S.C. § 214(e)(2)**

ORDER

COMES NOW the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission"), and it appearing to the Commission, for good cause shown and after reviewing the plan of RCC Holdings, Inc. d/b/a Unicel ("RCC") for utilization of the year 2004 Federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") support heretofore submitted to this Commission by RCC, and this Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised, finds as follows:

I.

The Commission entered an Order designating RCC an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier "ETC" under Section 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(2) on December 2, 2002.

II.

On or about July 15, 2003, RCC submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support for the year 2004 ("USF Plan") for approval by the Commission. Following discussions with the Public Utilities Staff, RCC submitted a revised 2004 USF Plan via cover dated September 17, 2003. The USF Plan was filed under seal, and it generally proposed to maintain and support the existing infrastructure and also expand network services for projected 2004 growth. This Commission finds that RCC's proposed use of federal

universal service funds for the year 2004 in Mississippi is consistent with the principles of Universal Service as outlined in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") in its Universal Service Order.¹

III.

The Commission, after consultation with the Public Utilities Staff, concludes that RCC's USF Plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004 is consistent with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the pertinent FCC orders.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED:

1. The Commission hereby certifies that RCC's plan to utilize Federal Universal Service High Cost Support Funds in Mississippi as contained in its revised USF Plan submitted to the Commission is consistent with 47 U.S.C. 254(e).
2. RCC shall file quarterly reports with the Commission providing the status of universal service fund expenditures and projects.
3. This Order is effective as of the date hereof.

Chairman Michael Callahan voted Aye, Vice Chairman Bo Robinson voted Aye; and Commissioner Nielsen Cochran voted Aye.

¹Federal - State Joint Board on Universal Service Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 99-306, Released November 2, 1999 ("Universal Service Order"). See generally, paragraphs 93-110.

SO ORDERED, this the 24th day of September, 2003.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



BY: Michael Callahan
MICHAEL CALLAHAN, CHAIRMAN

BY: Bo Robinson
BO ROBINSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

BY: Nielsen Cochran
NIELSEN COCHRAN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Brian U. Ray
BRIAN U. RAY,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

**BEFORE THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

02-UA-319

**WS TELECOM, INC. D/B/A
EXPETEL
COMMUNICATIONS**

TC 123191000

**IN RE: APPLICATION OF WS TELECOM, INC.
D/B/A EXPETEL COMMUNICATIONS
FOR DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
UNDER THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ACT OF 1996**

ORDER

COMES NOW the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission"), and it appearing to the Commission, for good cause shown and after reviewing the plan of WS Telecom, Inc. d/b/a eXpeTel Communications ("eXpeTel") for utilization of the year 2004 Federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") support heretofore submitted to this Commission by eXpeTel, and this Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised, finds as follows:

I.

The Commission entered an Order designating eXpeTel an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier "ETC" under Section 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(2) on June 30, 2003.

II.

On or about July 30, 2003, eXpeTel submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support for the year 2004 ("USF Plan") for approval by the Commission. Following discussions with the Public Utilities Staff, eXpeTel submitted a revised 2004 USF Plan on September 23, 2003. The USF Plan was filed under seal. This Commission finds that eXpeTel's proposed use of federal universal service funds for the year 2004 in

Mississippi is consistent with the principles of Universal Service as outlined in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") in its Universal Service Order.¹

III.

The Commission, after consultation with the Public Utilities Staff, concludes that eXpeTel's USF Plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004 is consistent with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the pertinent FCC orders.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED:

1. The Commission hereby certifies that eXpeTel's plan to utilize Federal Universal Service High Cost Support Funds in Mississippi as contained in its revised USF Plan submitted to the Commission is consistent with 47 U.S.C. 254(e).
2. eXpeTel shall file quarterly reports with the Commission providing the status of universal service fund expenditures and projects.
3. This Order is effective as of the date hereof.

Chairman Michael Callahan voted Ag, Vice Chairman Bo Robinson voted Ag; and Commissioner Nielsen Cochran voted Ag.

¹Federal - State Joint Board on Universal Service Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 99-306, Released November 2, 1999 ("Universal Service Order"). See generally, paragraphs 93-110.

SO ORDERED, this the 24th day of September, 2003.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



BY: Michael Callahan
MICHAEL CALLAHAN, CHAIRMAN

BY: Bo Robinson
BO ROBINSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

BY: Nielsen Cochran
NIELSEN COCHRAN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Brian U. Ray
BRIAN U. RAY,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

**BEFORE THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

03-UA-165

**COMMUNIGROUP OF
JACKSON, INC.**

TC 123082001

**IN RE: APPLICATION OF COMMUNIGROUP
OF JACKSON, INC. D/B/A
COMMUNIGROUP FOR
DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
UNDER THE TELECOMMUNICATIONS
ACT OF 1996**

ORDER

COMES NOW the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission"), and it appearing to the Commission, for good cause shown and after reviewing the plan of CommuniGroup of Jackson, Inc. d/b/a CommuniGroup ("CommuniGroup") for utilization of the year 2004 Federal Universal Service Fund ("USF") support heretofore submitted to this Commission by CommuniGroup and this Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised, finds as follows:

I.

The Commission entered an Order designating CommuniGroup an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier "ETC" under Section 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(2) on July 21, 2003.

II.

On or about July 31, 2003, CommuniGroup submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service High-Cost Support for the year 2004 ("USF Plan") for approval by the Commission. Following discussions with the Public Utilities Staff, CommuniGroup submitted a revised 2004 USF Plan on September 11, 2003. The USF Plan was filed under seal.

This Commission finds that CommuniGroup's proposed use of federal universal service funds for the year 2004 in Mississippi is consistent with the principles of Universal Service as outlined in the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and by the Federal Communications Commission ("FCC") in its Universal Service Order.¹

III.

The Commission, after consultation with the Public Utilities Staff, concludes that CommuniGroup's USF Plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004 is consistent with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the pertinent FCC orders.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED:

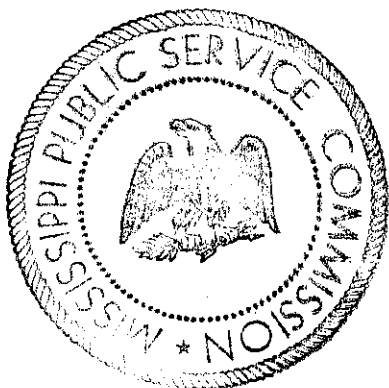
1. The Commission hereby certifies that CommuniGroup's plan to utilize Federal Universal Service High Cost Support Funds in Mississippi as contained in its revised USF Plan submitted to the Commission is consistent with 47 U.S.C. 254(e).
2. CommuniGroup shall file quarterly reports with the Commission providing the status of universal service fund expenditures and projects.
3. This Order is effective as of the date hereof.

Chairman Michael Callahan voted ay, Vice Chairman Bo Robinson voted Aye ;
and Commissioner Nielsen Cochran voted Aye.

¹Federal - State Joint Board on Universal Service Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 99-306, Released November 2, 1999 ("Universal Service Order"). See generally, paragraphs 93-110.

SO ORDERED, this the 24th day of September, 2003.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



BY: Michael Callahan
MICHAEL CALLAHAN, CHAIRMAN

BY: Bo Robinson
BO ROBINSON, VICE CHAIRMAN

BY: Nielsen Cochran
NIELSEN COCHRAN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Brian U. Ray
BRIAN U. RAY
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY

**BEFORE THE
MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION**

2002-UA-0234

CENTENNIAL

**IN RE: APPLICATION OF CENTENNIAL
CELLULAR TRI-STATE OPERATING
PARTNERSHIP AND CENTENNIAL
CLAIBORNE CELLULAR CORP. FOR
DESIGNATION AS AN ELIGIBLE
TELECOMMUNICATIONS CARRIER
UNDER 47 U.S.C. 214(e)(2)**

ORDER

COMES NOW the Mississippi Public Service Commission ("Commission") and it appearing to the Commission, for good cause shown and after reviewing the plan of Centennial Cellular Tri State Operating Partnership and Centennial Claiborne Cellular Corp. ("Centennial") for utilization for the year 2004 Federal Universal Service Funding ("USF") heretofore submitted to this Commission by Centennial, and this Commission being otherwise sufficiently advised finds as follows:

I.

On April 16, 2003, Centennial filed its Application for Designation as an Eligible Telecommunications Carrier ("ETC") under Section 47 U. S. C. 214(e)(2). The Commission entered an Order designating Centennial as an ETC on September 24, 2003.

II.

On September 24, 2003, Centennial submitted its detailed plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004 for approval by the Commission. The plan submitted was filed under seal, but generally proposed to maintain and support the existing infrastructure and also expand network services for projected 2004 growth. The Commission

finds that Centennial's proposed use of federal universal service funds for the year 2004 in Mississippi is consistent with the principles of Universal Service as outlined in the Telecommunication Act of 1996 and by the FCC in its Universal Service Order.¹

III.

The Commission, after consultation with the Public Utilities Staff, concludes that Centennial's plan for utilization of the Federal Universal Service Fund for the year 2004 is consistent with the Telecommunications Act of 1996 and the pertinent FCC orders.

IT IS, THEREFORE, ORDERED:

1. The Commission hereby certifies that Centennial's plan to utilize Federal Universal Service High Cost Support Funds in Mississippi as contained in its plan submitted to the Commission on September 24, 2003, is consistent with 46 U. S. C. 254(e).

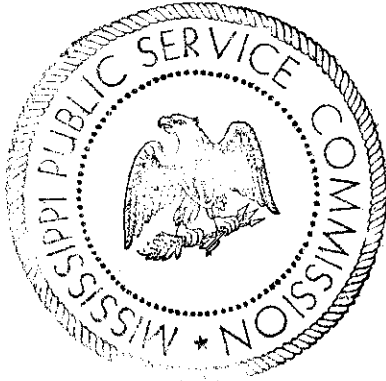
2. Centennial shall file quarterly reports with the Commission providing the status of universal service fund expenditures and projects. This Order is effective as of the date hereof.

Chairman Michael Callahan voted Aye, Vice-Chairman Bo Robinson voted Aye, and Commissioner Nielsen Cochran voted Aye.

¹Federal-State Joint Board on Universal Service Ninth Report and Order and Eighteenth Order on Reconsideration, CC Docket No. 96-45, FCC 99-306, Released November 2, 1999 ("Universal Service Order"). See generally, paragraphs 93-110.

SO ORDERED, this the 24th day of September, 2003.

MISSISSIPPI PUBLIC SERVICE COMMISSION



BY: Michael Callahan
MICHAEL CALLAHAN, CHAIRMAN

BY: Bo Robinson
BO ROBINSON, VICE-CHAIRMAN

BY: Nielsen Cochran
NIELSEN COCHRAN, COMMISSIONER

ATTEST: A TRUE COPY

Brian U. Ray
BRIAN U. RAY,
EXECUTIVE SECRETARY